Environmental Court

†364. SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration for setting up environmental courts at the earliest with a view to giving fundamental right of clean potable water to.citizens and to settle other issues of such type;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether task of reviewing the la*ws regarding environment in the country has been undertaken in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE INTHE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) and (b) No Sir.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Panel report on Bt. Cotton

365. SHRIV.V.RAGHAVAN:

SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Panel report on Bt. Cotton fudged" appearing in'The Statesman" New Delhi edition dated 14, January, 2003;

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto; and

(c) whether Government will conduct a comprehensive and objective Scientific assessment of the benefits of the Bt. Cotton as demanded by the Greeenpeace activists; if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE INTHE'MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) Yes Sir,

(b) and (c) The Genetic Engineering Approval Committee (GEAC) accorded conditional clearance for introduction of three Bt. cotton hybrids

† Original notice cf the question was received in Hindi.